



October is here. What are you going to do?

It's October and fall is really here. Soon it will be all pumpkins and pumpkin spice, cool evenings with hot soup and warm bread, perhaps a fire in the fireplace. We are fortunate that we have these or similar creature comforts.

We acknowledge that not everyone has this, and that so many throughout the world are starving, have no safe place to sleep and are living in constant fear of today being their last. Mothers and fathers are burying children and war and violence throughout the world have orphaned way too many children.

Everyday, as a community and as individuals, we choose how we are going to show up, and what actions we are going to support. Jesus teaches us to love everyone even when it's costly to do so, to feed those who are hungry, clothe those who need it, welcome the stranger, and love the least the last and the lost. This is the good news of the gospel. The God we serve is an "everybody in, nobody out" God. God is love, and justice and mercy for all – those who in our estimation may deserve it – and those who we think just might not. That's not our call. As I often say, that's above my pay grade.

In these times, when we may feel so powerless to change what we see in the world, and in our country, small acts of love and kindness – truly being Christ-like, and living with Christ-like compassion – are what matters. Coming together in person or online to be reminded of the moral teachings of Jesus and then living them out in the best way that we can matters.

This past week we heard a lot about "the rapture" – a belief of some Christians that when Jesus returns he will separate us out – that literally, people will either disappear, or be bodily pulled up to heaven. While I do not believe that there is much in scripture that supports this belief, what if we lived as if what we do, as Christians in the wealthiest country on earth, is a matter of life and death?

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

Because it is. What we do here matters. How we treat our neighbors – both as individuals and as a country – matters. And we are to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Friends, I invite you to find one thing that you can do for someone else – a random act of kindness for someone you don't know – and do it. Show compassion. Ask yourself what Jesus would do in any given situation and then do it. Forgive. Turn the other cheek. As Ghandi has famously said, "Be the change you want to see in the world." Or as Jesus often said, "Go and do likewise."

Blessings and love,

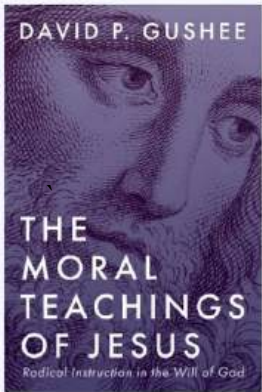
Pastor Jen



world communion sunday



Join us on October 5, 2024 at 10:30 for our annual celebration of **World Communion Sunday**
As always, we will be collecting food for one of our local ministry partners.
Please give as you are able.
Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.
(1 Corinthians 10:17)



The weekly bible study taught by Pastor Jen will return on August 6th at 11:30am.

If you haven't been participating but would like to, now is a great time to start!

You can purchase the book, or use the weekly readings that are sent out on Monday morning.

Each lesson stands alone, so you are welcome to come and go as your schedule permits.

This is a great study that meets both in-person and on Zoom. **All are invited.**



JCPC Fall 2025 Book Club Selection **Somehow: Thoughts on Love**

by Anne Lamott

We will meet to discuss the book over three **Monday** evenings from **6-7:00pm**, at the **Clubhouse at The Manor** (1st building on the left after you turn from Twin Church Rd to Hamer Circle.)

September 15 (Overture, Chapters 1-3)

September 29 (Chapters 4-7)

October 13 (Chapters 8-10 and Coda)

The book is available on most book websites.

Please let Betty Anne or Pastor Jen know if you are planning to participate, or just come!

Join us on Sunday, October 5th at 2pm for a celebration of the Feast of St.

Francis and a



As an offering for our furry friends you are invited to bring dog or cat food that will be donated to the Humane Society.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!
If you wish to show your gratitude to Pastor Jen let her know by sharing some joy and love with her.



**Join us on October 11, 2025 for
Pride in the PeeDee**

Join JCPC and our community in celebrating the diversity of God's beloved children! Please come, stop by or volunteer.

As a sponsor, our church will have a booth at the event from 4pm until 9pm. We will need folks to help set up and tear down and be present at the booth to welcome and speak to people who may come by and be curious.

We may also be in need a shade tent — 10x10 (like above.)
Interested? Contact Gary Pierce or Pastor Jen.



If you are interested learning more about membership at JCPC in particular or the Presbyterian Church (USA) in general, please let Pastor Jen know.

She will set up a time to gather folks together once she knows who might be interested. All are welcome!



2025 Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women

Sunday, October 26, we will collect the PW Thank Offering In. addition the women of JCPC invite you to stay after worship for a SOUP and Cornbread (crackers, PBJ sandwiches, & desserts) lunch.

Thank Offering grants range from \$5,000 to \$50,000.

The Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women read, prayed over and selected ten projects for funding this year. More than forty percent of the selected projects are related to health ministries.



A Service of Remembrance for All Saints Day November 2, 2025 at 10:30am

In honor of **All Saints Day**, a slide show with pictures of each of the **members/friends of JCPC who have passed since November 1, 2024** will be shared during our morning worship service, and family or friends will light a candle in their honor.

If you have a friend or family member that is not a part of this community but that you would like to remember on that Sunday, please provide a picture, their name, relationship to you, and date of birth and death to the church office by **Sunday October 19**. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jen.



Help Grow our
Backyard
sanctuary
Buy and/or sell
\$10 car wash
coupons



Jesus taught his followers the importance of prayer, and God longs to change our hearts and our minds through our prayer practice.

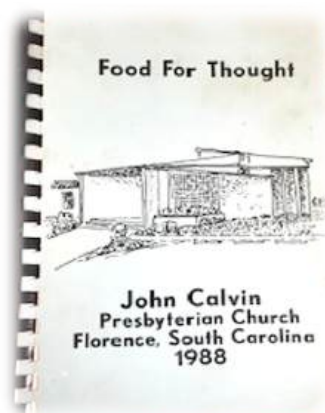
If you are not currently on the JCPC prayer email list, please send your email address to janecoker111@gmail.com.

Pastor Jen or Jane Coker send out prayer emails once or twice a week or more frequently when there is an urgent need. Remember, that we pray not so that we can change God's heart, but that we can allow God to change our heart.

Emails come from jcpcprays@gmail.com.



Recently I received, as Clerk of Session, a small book entitled Rejoice: Celebrating Church Volunteers by Kim Burkhardt. Her accompanying letter stated that John Calvin was featured in the book and I wondered who might have sent information to her. When I read the info about JCPC I was surprised at how she got her information and you might be also surprised. It was the first edition of *Food for Thought* produced in 1988. She found it in a Little Free Library in **Seattle, Washington**. Little Free Library is a free book sharing service in people's yards. After reading her article I found my copy of the book which I have now had 37 years. Annie Bigham was listed as Moderator of Presbyterian Women, Alice Baker as Chair of the Cookbook Committee and Judy Voss was on the committee. You never know how far something we volunteer for will go. Betty Anne Smith



How We Serve!



*Your time and talents are greatly appreciated.
Without your willingness to serve, JCPC would
not be the church family that we are.*

Serving in October

Date	Elder	Liturgist	Usher/Greeter	Nursery	Counters
Oct 5	Tom Hoffmeyer	Thelma Hawkins	Sylvia Perkins Tom Hoffmeyer	Jane Coker	Joe Bittle, Connie Reel-Shearin, Myra Horton
Communion Prep: Gladys & Robert Davis			Communion Servers: Class of 2025		
Oct 12	Connie Reel-Shearin	Jackie Richardson	Sheila & Richard Lenz	Tyler Gross	Margaret Collar, Tom Hawkins, Gary Pierce
Oct 19	Thomas Hawkins	Ken Feaster-Eytchison	Judy & Al Feimster	Susan Nexsen	Ron Rogers, Susan Tedder, Tom Hoffmeyer
Oct 26	Myra Horton	Thomas Hawkins	Rita Myers Jackie Richardson	Karen Pattillo	Will Ginn, Robin Permenter, Tom Shearin

Treasurer's Report - August 31, 2025

Operating Budget

	Aug-25		2025 Year to Date (YTD)	
	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Actual
Envelope Income	\$ 20,392	\$ 16,568	\$ 169,433	\$ 162,427
Total Income	\$ 20,833	\$ 17,105	\$ 172,967	\$ 166,615
Expenses	\$ 20,833	\$ 18,703	\$ 172,967	\$ 146,009

In August 2025, total expenses exceeded total income by \$1,598 with year to date total revenues exceeding year to date expenses by \$20,606. Included in the YTD excess revenues are budget savings of \$12,256 for the open Director of Music Ministries and Childcare Assistant positions.

In August 2025, envelope income was under budget by \$3,824 and under budget YTD by \$7,006.

Compared to August 2024, envelope income for the month is up 15% and YTD total envelope income is down less than 1%.

Compared to August 2024, total income for the month is up 13% and YTD total income is down less than 1%.

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21

Looking to contribute to our local mission work?

Lighthouse Ministries Strengthening Families program

is using our facility to work with families in our community on
Mondays and Thursdays.

This is a fantastic program that teaches parents and children good and healthy ways to be together as a family.

We need to provide **at least 2 volunteers** to be here at the church
from 5:30 to 7 to help serve the meal and clean up.

If you are interested please see Thelma Hawkins who is recruiting volunteers



EOM Food Drive
For Help for Kids
The Month of October
Vienna Sausages
Are needed!

If you are looking for a way to help our underserved neighbors in Florence, our partners at Lighthouse sponsor a services connect event on

the First Friday of every month from 9-11am

at First Baptist Church (gym) at Irby and Palmetto

There is always a need for guides to help guests connect with the services they need.





Rita McCracken 10/2
Frank Eason 10/3
Vivian Dees 10/4
Charlie Henderson 10/5
Bruce Mallick 10/6
Charlie Stonerock 10/6
DeDe Molnar 10/12
Robin Permenter 10/14
Gabi Grinstead 10/19
Tripp Pattillo 10/19
Amelia Andrews 10/20
Martha Welch 10/20
Annie Bigham 10/29

Happy Anniversary

Beka & Kris Andrews 10/3
Roger Hux & Julia Krebs 10/4
Erin & Richard Grinstead 10/15
Rita & Steve McCracken 10/16
Jen Kottler & Gavin Meek 10/22



Top: Everybody's Birthday Party
Bottom: Children's Bowling Outing